

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
45 Fremont Street, 24th Floor
San Francisco, California 94105**

NAME APPROVAL

CALIFORNIA INSURANCE CODE

880. Except as provided in this article, every insurer shall conduct its business in this State in its own name.

881. The commissioner shall require the name or any changed name of every insurer (including reciprocal or interinsurance exchanges), every attorney in fact, every motor club and every underwritten title company to be submitted to him by written application and approved by him before such name is used in this state for business purposes. If approved, the commissioner shall issue his official certificate approving the same, and when appropriate, reserving the name for the following time periods, which shall commence on the date of the approval:

(1) One year where the applicant is newly formed, or where the application is filed on behalf of an entity to be formed, under the laws of this state.

(2) 180 days and during the pendency in good faith of an application for certificate of authority in the case of a foreign or alien applicant.

(3) 90 days in the case of an admitted entity requesting authority to change the name under which it will conduct its business with the public in this state.

Except in the case where an applicant has already paid a fee on a pending application for admission, the commissioner shall collect a one hundred and six dollar (\$106) fee for filing each application for name approval and reservation. An application for name approval may contain not more than three names in the order of applicant's preference and the commissioner's approval shall be limited to only one name submitted by any one application.

The certificate of approval shall be attached to the articles of incorporation before the Secretary of State shall file such articles or any amended articles. The commissioner may reject any name so submitted when it is an interference with, or too similar to one already appropriated, or when it is likely to mislead the public in any respect. In the event of such a rejection, the applicant shall legally change its name to one approved by the commissioner or, if a foreign or alien insurer, may arrange to conduct any business it may do with the public in California under an approved name as an operating name, identifying itself under both its true name and operating name in the conduct of all official business with the commissioner.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 1282 and 12221¹ of this code, the provisions of this section shall apply to reciprocal insurers, including their attorneys in fact, and shall apply to motor clubs, respectively.

881.3. Upon approval of an applicant's name by the commissioner, and the issuance of a certificate approving the same, the applicant may apply to the Secretary of State for the issuance of a certificate of reservation of corporate name for the same periods specified in Section 881.

¹ Repealed; see, now Sections 12160, 12162, 12166, and 12167

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